

## Dr. Katy Croff Bell

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Dr. Katy Croff Bell is the Founding Director of the Open Ocean Initiative at the MIT Media Lab, Fellow at the National Geographic Society, and Founding Member of the Ocean Collectiv. Her research involves developing programs for low-cost, distributed deployment of new and emerging technologies for exploring the ocean and connecting people to it.

Previously, as Vice President of the Ocean Exploration Trust, Dr. Bell led the development of exploration, research, and educational outreach activities for Exploration Vessel *Nautilus*. In that role, she oversaw hundreds of scientists, engineers, educators, and students from more than 30 countries working together to conduct telepresence-enabled expeditions around the world.

Dr. Bell holds an S.B. in ocean engineering from MIT, an M.Sc. in maritime archaeology from the University of Southampton, and a Ph.D. in geological oceanography from the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island. She was a 2001 John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellow in the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration, Chair of the 2018 National Ocean Exploration Forum, and is currently Vice Chair of the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee.